



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Generic Clearance for Community Resilience Data Collections

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of information collection, request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before (insert date 60 days after date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER).

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to Nina Argent, NIST, Management Analyst, at PRAComments@doc.gov. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Jennifer Helgeson, Economist, NIST, 100 Bureau Drive, MS 8603, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-1710, telephone 240-672-2575, or via email to jennifer.helgeson@nist.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Through acts such as the National Construction Safety Team Act (NCSTA), the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act (NWIRA) and the NIST Organic Act, among others, as well as the President's Climate Action Plan (2013), NIST conducts research and develops guidance and other related tools to promote and enhance the safety and well-being of people in the face of a hazard event. With this in mind, NIST proposes to conduct a number of data collection efforts within the topic areas of disaster and failure studies and community resilience and sustainability, including studies of specific disaster events (e.g., wildfire, urban fire, structure collapse, hurricane, earthquake, tornado, and flood events), assessments of community resilience and sustainability, and evaluations of the usability and utility of NIST resilience guidance or other products.

These data collection efforts may be either qualitative or quantitative in nature or may consist of mixed methods. Additionally, data may be collected via a variety of means, including but not limited to electronic or social media, direct or indirect observation (i.e., in person, video and audio collections), interviews, questionnaires, and focus groups. NIST will limit its inquiries to data collections that solicit strictly voluntary opinions or responses. The results of the data collected will be used to decrease negative impacts of disasters on society, and, in turn, increase community resilience within the U.S. communities. Steps will be taken to protect confidentiality of respondents in each activity covered by this request.

This notice pertains to both a revision and an extension of a previously approved submission. The NIST Engineering Laboratory utilizes this clearance to conduct research in support of topic areas of disaster and failure studies and community resilience (including studies of specific disaster events such as wildfire, urban fire, structure collapse, hurricane, earthquake, tornado, and flood events).

This type of research is directly related to a range of disasters which are unpredictable in their number during a given year. Additionally, some disasters may require multiple studies resulting in multiple collections. Therefore, in light of the recent increases in the number of

severe disaster events and the growing trend of disasters occurring outside of their typical season, NIST is requesting to increase the ICR Annual Response allotment from 20,000 to 25,000 Responses; and the ICR Annual Hours allotment from 15,000 to 18,000. NIST assures that no changes will be made to any of the individual information collection requests that have been approved for use.

.II. Method of Collection

NIST will collect this information by electronic means when possible, as well as by mail, fax, telephone, technical discussions, and in-person interviews. NIST may also utilize observational techniques to collect this information.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0693-0078.

Form Number(s): None. .

Type of Review: Regular submission. Revision.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; first responders; weather forecasters; members of the media; water, power, transportation, and communications infrastructure operators; businesses or other for-profit organizations; not-for-profit institutions; State, local or tribal government; Federal government; Standards-making bodies; Universities.

. Estimated Number of Respondents: 25,000

Estimated Time Per Response: Varied, dependent upon the data collection method used.

The possible response time to complete a questionnaire may be 15 minutes or 2 hours to participate in an interview.

. Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 18,000

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0.

IV. Request for Comments

NIST invites comments on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the

information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Sheleen Dumas,

Department PRA Clearance Officer,

Office of the Chief Information Officer,

Commerce Department.

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